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17th March, 1959COCOM Document No. 3416.61/3COORDINATING COMMITTEE

S. General

RECORD OF DISCUSSIONONITEM 1661 - NICKEL12th and 16th March, 1959

Present: Belgium(Luxembourg), Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

References: COCOM Documents 3016.00/4, 3016.61/1 and 2, 3416.00/1, 2 and 3, 3416.61/1 and 2; COCOM Sub-C.(58) 6 and 8; Metals and Alloys Working Paper 29.

1. The UNITED KINGDOM Delegation invited the Committee's attention to their Memorandum, COCOM Document 3416.61/2, submitting a definition of Item 1661(b) as a compromise between their earlier position and the United States suggestion set out in COCOM Document 3416.61/1 (paragraphs 2 and 4). The United Kingdom Delegation hoped that this compromise proposal would be acceptable to the Committee and that it might permit of agreement on other outstanding Metals items.

2. The United Kingdom Delegate then introduced some slight amendments in the wording of the exceptions clauses of the formula proposed by his Delegation in paragraph 5 of COCOM Document 3416.61/2. It would then read:

"(b) Nickel base alloys (other than alloys covered by Items 1631 or 1635) containing 32% or more nickel, except:

- (1) electrical resistance materials, as follows: wire, rod, tape and strip;
- (2) nickel-copper alloys (of the "Monel" type) containing not more than 10% of other alloying elements.

(NOTE: It is not the intention to cover those magnetic materials not covered by Item 1631.)"

3. The UNITED STATES Delegate expressed his appreciation of the extent to which the United Kingdom Delegation had moved towards views expressed by the United States in the past. He felt that discussion on Item 1661(b) might be facilitated if the Committee could first clarify the situation on Item 1661(c).

4. The CHAIRMAN asked the Canadian Delegate whether he was in a position to give a final reply on the United States proposal to add to Item 1661 a new part (c) reading:

"(c) Scrap forms of the alloys covered under (b) above".

(See COCOM Sub-C.(58) 8 and page 8 of the Appendix to COCOM 3016.00/4)

5. The CANADIAN Delegate said that his authorities, while not convinced as to the strategic importance of scrap forms especially, appreciated the efforts made by the United States Delegation to provide relevant information and, since their acceptance would help to achieve unanimity, they accepted the United States proposal.

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6. The CHAIRMAN noted that, with this acceptance, the Committee had reached unanimous agreement to add to Item 1661 a new part (c) reading:

"(c) Scrap forms of the alloys covered under (b) above".

This definition would not, however, come into force until agreement had been reached as to the definition of Item 1661(b).

7. The CHAIRMAN asked for further views on Item 1661(b).

8. The UNITED STATES Delegate, recalling that the acceptance of the new part (c) had been the condition for United States agreement to the deletion from part (b) of the words "in any form", stated that he could now accept this deletion. His Delegation could also agree to the second part of the exceptions clause as set out in paragraph 5 of COCOM 3416.61/2, but with respect to the amendment put forward by the United Kingdom Delegation at the present meeting (see paragraph 2 above), although he could agree to the phrase "of the 'Monel' type", he would have to ask for instructions as to the change from 6% to 10%. As regards the first part of the exceptions clause he had no authority to accept the exclusion of resistance rod, tape and strip. He recalled that the matter had once been considered closed with the exclusion of only resistance wire. He hoped that the additional exclusions he had now accepted would be sufficient to meet the desires of the United Kingdom. An expert from Washington had arrived in Paris for a few days and would be at the disposal of Delegations who wished to raise technical points.

9. The BELGIAN, CANADIAN, JAPANESE and NETHERLANDS Delegations accepted the United Kingdom text as amended in paragraph 2. above.

10. The FRENCH, GERMAN and ITALIAN Delegations accepted the original proposal and agreed to the amended version on an ad referendum basis.

11. The UNITED KINGDOM Delegate thanked all Delegations for the spirit in which they had considered these proposals. He welcomed the United States agreement to the second part of the exceptions clause on the basis of 6%: the United Kingdom Delegation believed that the change to 10% did not make any material difference and hoped that it would prove possible for the United States authorities to agree to that also. As to the first part, his Delegation were at a loss to understand why those authorities felt unable to accept the freeing from embargo of electrical resistance materials of obvious civilian application. The United Kingdom Delegation had gone to the extreme limit in an endeavour to reach a solution on this item. If that solution could not be accepted, even ad referendum, the United Kingdom Delegation would have to reserve their position on the item and, indeed, on other Metals items that had yet to be discussed.

12. In response to a question from the JAPANESE Delegation, the United Kingdom expert stated that, in his Delegation's view, the proposed definition for Item 1661(b) would embargo Incoloy as specified by the German Delegate in paragraph 5 of COCOM Document 3416.61/1.

13. On the 16th March, the ITALIAN Delegate stated that his authorities, considering that the United Kingdom proposal constituted a clear advance towards a compromise solution, accepted the wording set out in paragraph 2. above.

14. The FRENCH and GERMAN Delegates confirmed their provisional acceptance.

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